

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment amends claim 6 for purposes of clarity only, cancels claims 1-3 and adds new claim 10, which depends from claim 9. Pending in the application are claims 1-10, of which claims 4, 7, 8 and 9 are independent. The following comments address all stated grounds for rejection and place the presently pending claims, as identified above, in condition for allowance.

Claim 6 is amended in line 6 to change "comprises" to --comprising--.

New claim 10 depends from claim 9 and recites the subject matter originally found in canceled claim 2. *No new matter is added.*

Amendment and/or cancellation of the claims is not to be construed as an acquiescence to any of the objections/rejections set forth in the instant Office Action, and was done solely to expedite prosecution of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed, or similar claims, in this or one or more subsequent patent applications.

35 U.S.C. 102 Rejections

Applicants thank the Examiner for the close review of the claims and for indicating that claims 4-9 are allowed. In the Office Action, the Examiner maintains and makes final the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Gruenwald. To expedite allowance of the instant application, Applicants have canceled claims 1-3. The cancellation of claims 1-3 renders the rejection moot, and places all pending claims in condition for allowance.

New dependent claim 10 depends from allowed claim 9 and includes the patentable limitations of claim 9. Claim 10 further specifies that the control calculation device calculates controlled physical values to be attained by operations of the plurality of control devices and the controlled objects as control signals which control the operation of the plurality of control devices and the controlled objects, a feature neither taught nor suggested in the cited prior art. Dependent claim 10 further recites that the input/output control devices of said control system convert said controlled physical values which have been received from said cooperative control device to operation command values that indicate directly the operation of said control devices and said controlled objects.

For at least these reasons, all pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION


In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SIW-023 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

If there are any remaining issues, we invite a call to the Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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